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QUEBEC, CANADA, June 19, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended June 14 there were inspected at the port of Halifax, Nova Scotia, 205 immigrants; passed, 197; detained, 8.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Origin of smallpox outbreak at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

QUEBEC, CANADA, June 19, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose a letter received from Dr. N. E. Mackay, quarantine officer at the port of Halifax, Nova Scotia. The letter is a reply to a report on the smallpox situation at Halifax, published in the PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS dated April 4, 1902.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, June 16, 1902.

SIR: The facts in connection with the outbreak of smallpox in Dartmouth are as follows:

Mr. Walker, the man who took ill first with the disease, and who was supposed to have contracted it from the steamship *Dahome*, worked on the boiler of that vessel on February 18 and February 19, and on February 23 he took ill. Dr. Milson was called in for the first time on February 24, and the patient was out on February 27.

By this you will see that the man Walker took ill on the fifth day after he began to work on the vessel, which would allow of an incubation period of five days (if he had contracted the disease from the vessel), a thing unheard of.

I may further state that the steamship was thoroughly overhauled and refitted immediately after she was released from quarantine and none of the working men contracted smallpox, and further, she has made 2 trips to the West Indies and had a large passenger list each time, and none of them or any of the crew developed the disease.

Respectfully,

N. E. MACKAY,
Quarantine Officer.

VICTOR G. HEISER,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

CHINA.

Report from Hongkong—Plague and cholera.

HONGKONG, CHINA, May 21, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the abstract of bills of health issued at this station during the week ended May 17, 1902. Seven vessels were disinfected, 476 individuals were bathed at the disinfecting station, and 579 bundles of clothing and bedding were disinfected by steam.

The cholera situation remains about the same, 39 cases and 36 deaths having been reported during the week. The cases were distributed among the various nationalities, as follows: Five Indians, 1 Portuguese, 1 Japanese, 1 German, and 31 Chinese. The total cholera cases and deaths thus far this year are, therefore, 254 and 227, respectively.

There was a slight increase in the number of cases and deaths due to bubonic plague, 31 cases and 34 deaths having been reported. All were